

Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AGR-10 RSC-01 AID-05 EB-06 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8116

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCEN ARIN FAO

SUBJ: FAO COUNCIL 64TH SESSION: ELECTIONS TO IGC

/SUMMARY/: FAO 64TH COUNCIL NOVEMBER 18-24 WILL ELECT FOUR MEMBERS OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE OF WORLD FOOD PROGRAM FOR 3-YEAR TERMS TO FILL MEMBERSHIPS BEING TERMINATED BY CANADA, INDIA, TRINIDAD TOBAGO AND U.S. INDIA ACTIVELY SEEKING REELECTION TO IGC AND PROBABLY ENJOYS WIDE SUPPORT WHICH ALSO ASSUMED FOR U.S. AND CANADA. SAUDI ARABIA REPORTEDLY SEEKS MEMBERSHIP. WHAT IS U.S. POSITION? /END SUMMARY/

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NOTE FROM EMBASSY OF INDIA ASKING SUPPORT FOR REELECTION. WHILE U.S. AND INDIA VIEWS OFTEN DIFFER, LATTER IN AMONG THE MOST INTERESTED PARTICIPANTS, IS AN EFFECTIVE SPOKESMAN FOR RECEIVING NATION (INDIA IS LARGE NET RECEIVER THOUGH CONTRIBUTING \$1 MILLION) AND ENJOYS WIDE SUPPORT. REELECTION PROBABLY IS FOREGONE CONCLUSION. EMBASSY REPLY ADVISED THAT U.S. WILL GIVE INDIAN CANDIDACY CAREFULL CONSIDERATION.

2. ASSUME U.S. AND CANADA WILL ALSO BE REELECTED.

3. WHILE TRINIDAD/TOBAGO SEAT NORMALLY WOULD BE EXPECTED TO
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GO TO LATIN AMERICA, WE UNDERSTAND FROM SECRETARIAT THAT

SAUDI ARABIA IS INTERESTED. IN VIEW SAUDI \$5 MILLION CASH PLEDGE FOR NEXT BIENNIUM (AT THIS JUNCTURE LARGEST CONTRIBUTOR EXCEPT FOR U.S.) AND U.S. HOPES THAT THIS ACTION WILL LEAD TO INCREASED INTEREST BY OTHER OIL PRODUCERS, WE BELIEVE DISCREET U.S. SUPPORT WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS WOULD MEET WITH SUCCESS.

4. ELECTION OF SAUDI ARABIA WOULD NOT DO UNJUSTICE TO CONCEPT OF BALANCE BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING NOR SKEW UNDULY CONTRIBUTORS VERSUS RECIPIENTS BUT IT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO REGIONAL IMBALANCE, LEAVING LATIN AMERICA WITH ONLY TWO SEATS DURING 1975: ARGENTINA AND CHILE.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: INFORMATION ON U.S. POSITION.VOLPE

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